Mr. Bernard Fensterwald, Jr.
2101 L St., NW,
Washington, D.C. 20037

8/19/77

Dear Bud,

This may reach you before the original of Jimmy's letter of 8/17 does. He wrote you at 910 16 and unless the post office has changed its practises they do not forward mail after 6 months. If I get an overdue service call on my copying machine I'll enclose a copy for you because his letter will probably go back to him. I'll do the same to him.

This letter merely tells me that he is no less irrational than I have believed him to be since the evidentiary hearing.

In some cases Jimmy is in error. In other cases he lies, as in saying I have "refused" to do what he wants. Even in having ever had some of this, his third item, what he got from Hill in Chattanooga.

The first is a tape of a Huie TV interview in Nashville, the second what he calls "several negative films" he gave you for me.

He also says he may want the FOIA records I got through his personal waiver. I'll deal with this first. He did give me a waiver on what the FBI withheld as personal. I did get a few pages, perhaps two dozen. I did write him then and tell him about them, I think offer them. In any event, Jim has them and so far as I am concerned Jimmy can have them. However, he first gave a waiver and then, after it was over sought to attach conditions. On principle I do not accept this. Those few pages had to do with a shallow FBI investigation after he escaped from the Missouri pen. They are valueless. I think I have them in a separate file folder. If I do and can locate them easily I'll make copies and send them to you or to him. My disposition given his current attitude and his recent behavior is to let it wait until he asks through Kershaw and then charge Kershaw for the time as well as the copying.

Ordinarily I would not feel this way but I've had about all of this insanity I'm going to accept. Now he tries to say that I was your investigator, not his. I have letters from him to the contrary, in fact asking me to represent myself as his investigator to sell more copies of Frame-Up. I also have my letter in which I refused to do this. Here he meant on talk shows, appearances, etc.

I don't think you ever had the Huie tape. I'm reasonably certain that Jimmy did not give it to me. Jerry did. I have the same problem with it I have with the film. The film has a different history than he represents. He first mentioned this to me in an entirely different sense. He said he would have another prisoner take pictures of him that if I wanted to I could sell in Europe to recover some of my expenses in investigating for him. I would not do any such commercializing thing. However, I also had to be careful to see that nobody else did. This meant that when he sent me the roll of 35 mm film I could not take it to my friendly drug store. It also was color film, which meant that my local camera shop could not process it but like the drug store would have to send it away for processing. Finally I found someone I knew and could trust who was able to process color film and was willing for me to be present when he did it to guaratee there would be no extra copies made and then commercialized. We arranged for me to go to his place, about 15 miles from here, one night when he was free. He then got sick before this could happen. Time passed and I forget about it. I recall where I last saw the film but when I got another file cabinet and had to do some shifting I put it somewhere else and do not know where. I have looked for it several times. If I find it he is welcome to it. It is undeveloped film. I have made no use of it, havene't ever done more than see what kind of film it is, which the cassette says.

Essentially the same thing is true of the Huie tape. I just can't find it. I have no interest in it. He's welcome to it.

These people have their own strange concepts of reality. Reality is what they want to be, not what is. I'm taking this time for explanations on the chance Kershaw gets in touch with you, so you can tell him.

Jimmy just refuses to believe that I have serious limitations. I did the last time I saw him and the time before. The next to the last time I was in such shape that when they saw me at the Nashville airport, where I went from the pen, they put me in a wheelchair and single-loaded me. Jimmy joked to Jimmy that I walked in on hippie shoes. They were moccassins. I could not get shoes on.

When Jerry wrote me about the film and tape I told him I just could not find them. I invited him here to do the searching and to get anything else Jimmy might need that I'd be willing to give him. Jerry didn't do it. When Jim and I were on our way to Wisconsin last November Jerry met us at the airport in Chicago and I again asked him to do this when it would not have been much out of his way on his planned trip to Jimmy and then Georgia. He didn't.

If there were anything more I could do I'd do it. I've told both of them this but what is real is not real to them and Jimmy has some strange notion that I'm just holding back what he thinks is manna and I regard as garbage. I've got stack of staff all over the place I can t file. I can t get any help. A month ago I could not walk to the end of the lane and back without getting woozy. I'm on coumadin and I can now walk more but I have other and potentially serious problems on which the diagnosis is not complete. Jim has known about this. There is an undiagnosed arterial problem in addition to the fairly serious vascular problem. Some tests have been made and there may be more, depending on the results that have not yet come back. I haven't been able to mow my own grass all summer, I've been that limited. Part of the place has turned wild again from this

So there just is nothing I can do to provide what he wants that I have. I have told him this and that a detinue will make no difference. If I knew where it was he'd have had it long ago. He just pretends I have not told him this and that I only refer him to you or Jim, which I believe is not the case. I know I wrote him and Jerry and discussed it with Jerry in Jim's presence last November.

He does himself little good in sending a carbon to the House committee. If they ask me all it will do is prove that his word is no good, not that he has left any doubt about it in all he has done lately.

You are perfectly welcome to stop off if you go to Western Maryland and see the conditions around here and satisfy yourself I'm not making it up. I have been so limited I lost all my tame fish during the winter simply because I could not make a simple repair on the dam that feeds the pond. It is the first winter since I've been here I did not cut my own firewood. I'm not even taking the bus to Washington now. Jim will tell you that for the first time I'm not appearing at hearings in my own cases. This and that I can't begin to do what I want to are the realities, not what Jimmy stews up down there in his own special variant of an ivory tower.

Sincerely,